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IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1, 4, 5 and 14-20 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 2, 3, 6, and 12 as shown below in clean, re-written form:

- 2. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that encodes SEQ ID NO:2.
- 3. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2, comprising the coding region of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 6. (Amended) A chimeric gene comprising a promoter active in plants operatively linked to the nucleic acid molecule of claim 2.
- 12. (Amended) Transgenic seed from a transgenic plant according to claim 10.

Please add new claims 21-28 as shown below:

- 21. (New) A chimeric gene comprising a promoter active in plants operatively linked to the nucleic acid molecule of claim 3.
- 22. (New) A recombinant vector comprising the chimeric gene of claim 21.
- 23. (New) A transgenic host cell comprising the chimeric gene of claim 21.
- New) A transgenic host cell according to claim 23, which is a transgenic plant cell.
 - 25. (New) A transgenic plant comprising the transgenic plant cell of claim 24.

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- 26. (New) The transgenic plant of claim 25, which is selected from the group consisting of: rice, wheat, barley, rye, rape, corn, potato, carrot, sweet potato, sugar beet, bean, pea, chicory, lettuce, cabbage, cauliflower, broccoli, turnip, radish, spinach, asparagus, onion, garlic, eggplant, pepper, celery, squash, pumpkin, cucumber, apple, pear, quince, melon, plum, cherry, peach, nectarine, apricot, strawberry, grape, raspberry, blackberry, pineapple, avocado, papaya, mango, banana, soybean, tobacco, tomato, sorghum, and sugarcane.
- 27. (New) Transgenic seed from a transgenic plant according to claim 25.
- 28. (New) A method of increasing SAR gene expression in a plant, comprising expressing the chimeric gene according to claim 21 in the plant.

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